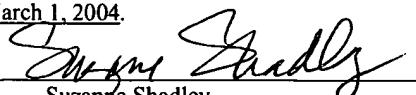


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By: 

Suzanne Shadley

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: **Eric D. Carlson et al.**

Serial No.: To Be Assigned

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: March 1, 2004

For: Evaluating Effects Of Exposure Conditions
On Drug Samples Over Time

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT A

Sir:

Applicants respectfully request consideration of the above-referenced patent application in view of this Preliminary Amendment A and the following remarks.

Amendments to the claims are requested as set forth below in the section entitled "Amendments to the Claims". Remarks relating to such amendments and responsive to the aforementioned Office action follow thereafter in the section entitled "Remarks".